

Message Text

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22

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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USIA-06 /082 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER/BTK

APPROVED BY ARA:WHLUERS

EUR/CAN: DBLAKEMORE

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R 222040Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON

SUBJECT: US/CANADIAN CONSULTATIONS ON THE CARIBBEAN

1. IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH CANADIAN MINISTER VERNON TURNER SEPT. 17, ARA DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY LUERS PROPOSED PILATERALCONSULTATIONS ON CARIBBEAN PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. LUERS SUGGESTED SUCH CONSULTATIONS MIGHT FOCUS ON COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN PLUS HAITI.

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2. TURNER SAID HIS GOVERNMENT KEENLY INTERESTED IN CARIB-

BEAN DEVELOPMENTS, AND HE THOUGHT ON A PERSONAL BASIS THAT PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL. HE NOTED THAT ANNUAL US/CANADIAN TALKS ON AFRICA HAD PROVED VERY HELPFUL.

3. IN RESPONSE TO TURNER'S QUESTIONS, LUERS SAID CUBA WOULD NOT BE ON THE AGENDA FOR SUCH TALKS, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID THE CUBA QUESTION IN DEALING WITH OTHER CARIBBEAN PROBLEMS. OUR MOTIVATION IN SEEKING THE CONSULTATIONS IS NOT RELATED TO THE CUBA QUESTION, BUT SPRINGS FROM OUR PERCEPTION OF INCREASED CANADIAN INTEREST IN, AND DEDICATION OF RESOURCES TO THE CARIBBEAN. WHEN TURNER REFERRED TO UPCOMING MANLEY VISIT TO OTTAWA, LUERS SAID THAT SUGGESTION FOR CONSULTATIONS IS NOT RELATED TO MANLEY VISIT.

4. TURNER PROMISED TO CONVEY OUR SUGGESTION TO HIS GOVERNMENT AND GIVE US CANADIAN RESPONSE IN DUE TIME. HABIB

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